

otherwise it is presumed that it will always be found to have arisen, either from the circumstance of an encroachment of the tertiary formation upon the primary, or from partial transportations of soil from one spot to another by causes always appreciable. This view it is deemed important to take, as the only one calculated to lead to any general and positive results of value to agriculture. Thus, every farmer in Baltimore county is aware of the higher estimate which is put upon the Red soil of some districts, than upon the lighter colored soils of an adjoining one. Now, the red soil, as it is termed, is known to be produced by the decomposition of that variety of rocks, called Hornblende rock; while the adjoining soil is derived from some other of the granitic aggregates. On the other hand, those portions of the same county that are designated as barren, are equally well known to occur principally among the magnesian and talcose rocks. Generally speaking, then, the mineral constituents of these soils will be found to correspond with those of the rocky strata beneath them. Although it is a remarkable fact in relation to the limestone soils that its constituents do not indicate it to have been produced solely by the disintegration of the subjacent rock. Still, however, the limestone soil, like the other soils that have been mentioned, is peculiar, and it is uniform, as regards superposition upon limestone rock; and as it shews no evidence of having been transported, must be classed among the primitive or original soils, whatever may have been the circumstances, hereafter to be discovered, that have occasioned its production.

If this view of the original constitution of the soils lying over the primary rocks be a correct one, and